



Clackamas County Chatter July & August 2024

Summer is finally here and gardens are flourishing. Many wonderful veggies are being enjoyed for dinner, and beautiful flowers add so much color and variety to the scene. The N & M Nursery tour and dinner in June was well attended. It was an excellent way to start the summer!

Please note: There will not be monthly chapter meetings in either July, August, or September. This is a great time to sign up for the Farmer’s Markets, or volunteer at Grow An Extra Row, or End of the Oregon Trail. Perhaps attend “Hands On Workshops” as space is available, or complete your educational hours by watching some of the [10-Minute™ University](#) webinars, now available on the website. Our Open Gardens program has once again resumed - watch your emails for announcements with all the details.

We are excited to announce a wonderful way for all of us to gather again in September!! We have moved the Annual Picnic (once held in August) to September. It will be on a Saturday to allow for the whole

family to attend. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 7th, 5:00 until 7:30pm. This will be held in the Pavilion at the Milwaukie Center. Theme is “Septemberfest” - a focus the bounties of harvest time. A delicious main course is provided by the chapter, augmented as you share your favorite side dish, salad or dessert. There will be entertainment, games, a raffle or plenty of time to sit and chat. Be on the lookout for an electronic invitation. Priscilla is looking for volunteers, so please contact her if you have the time to pitch in.

Chapter meetings will resume on October 14th.

Have a healthy, happy and enjoyable summer. We can look forward to summertime opportunities to volunteer, increase our gardening skills and gather in September to share good food and fun.

Warm regards to each of you, Amelia - Chapter President

Open Gardens

Open Gardens have returned! Nancy Cutler is our new coordinator for this worthwhile chapter activity. If you are interested in hosting an Open Garden, please contact Nancy to be put on the schedule. Watch your email for upcoming events – we hope to see you in the gardens. And on that note, here is a garden that is a must see!

August 3 & 4, 11 am to 5 pm at the home of Harry Landers. Harry is the retired curator of Portland’s famous Rose Garden and is now busy cultivating his own tropical paradise. As a horticulturist, Harry’s passion is evident, he’s definitely succeeded in making a beautiful private oasis that’s not to be missed.

Chapter Summer Activities: Grown an Extra Row and the End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden !

As summer continues you will find many of our chapter members busy volunteering in local gardens. Our Grown an Extra Row (GAER) team has been busy maintaining their eight community garden plots. So far this year they have donated 882 pounds of fresh vegetables and herbs to local food banks. If you are interested in seeing more photos from this year’s garden follow this link: [Grown an Extra Row Gallery](#). Located at the Community Garden at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City, you can find volunteers in the gardens on Tuesdays & Fridays 9am-noon – April through October, weather permitting. “Come when you can, stay as long as you want”, no need to sign up! To email the team: ccmgextrarow@gmail.com.



The garden at the End of the Oregon Trail is a demo garden showcasing plants that were used in the 1860’s. They grow and harvest seeds from the garden much as the pioneers did. Seed-saving and trading was a big part of pioneer gardening culture. In the summer you will see many vegetables with colorful seed heads ripening in the sun. Volunteers meet every other Wednesday from 10:00 to around noon. *During the hotter days in summer the times may be earlier.* The Garden is located at 1726 Washington St, Oregon City. You can find more about our project at <https://eotpioneergarden.wordpress.com/> To stay in the know about all our activities like seed collection and saving, add your name to the mailing list: eotpioneergarden@gmail.com

10-Minute University News



Check out their page for recertification resources and other relevant gardening information for yourself, and for friends and family. New this summer: [2024 Summer in the Garden series](#). Research based articles authored by Master Gardener experts focusing on creating your best garden. You will also find [2024 Let’s Grow Together! Video Links](#) - Video recordings from the Let’s Grow Together series. Remember the videos will count for your annual recertification hours.

Our Chapter Investment in Garden Research and Education is Paying off

At the recent Joy of Gardening conference held on July 12-13 in Corvallis, Clackamas County Master Gardener Association (CCMGA) was recognized during a keynote speech on garden research.

In the past 12 months, CCMGA provided crucial support in disseminating garden research from the OSU Garden Ecology Lab. They included:

- A 2023 Gray & Norrene Thompson Grant that paid for a pilot project that produced 4 Garden Ecology Lab (GEL) briefs, designed to make garden research user-friendly. Borrowing ideas from the 10-Minute University handouts, each brief is 2 pages and uses a standardized format, beginning with the research question, followed by the result, and concluding with potential applications in the garden.
- 10-Minute University™ editors (Karen Day, Justin Dune, Laura Eyer, Shi-Yi Liu, Sherry Sheng) reviewed each draft and offered ideas for improving clarity and relevance.
- 10-Minute University™ team began sharing GEL briefs in newsletters, on the [10-Minute University webpage](#) (with support from Sharon Andrews) and in webinars where research findings fit the topic.
- CCMGA funded the design of six more Garden Ecology Lab briefs, bringing the total to 10.

Culminating these activities was a keynote presentation on “Ten Cool Things We Learned from Garden Research”, delivered by Dr. Gail Langellotto and Sherry Sheng, to more than 200 attendees. Written evaluations are not yet available, but preliminary indications were overwhelmingly positive. Many MGs said that they are excited to share these new research-based information with others.

All ten briefs are posted on the Garden Ecology Lab website <https://gardenecology.oregonstate.edu/gardenecology/gardeners> and CCMGA website <https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/gel/>

What’s next?

The Garden Ecology Lab continues their work, with student researchers working under the direction of Dr. Gail Langellotto. The lab currently supports two graduate students and five undergraduate students, costing about \$135,000 a year. OSU Graduate School covers graduate student tuition, leaving over \$100,000 needed from private contributions.

In 2023, Sherry Sheng set up the Oregon Garden Research Fund for this purpose. She pledged personal funds and began to raise the rest. In the past few months, a group of individuals and organizations have joined the Garden Ecology League. League members meet three times a year to learn about the latest research and to provide feedback. In addition, they make an annual donation of \$500 or more.

The League roster includes CCMGA, Benton Co. Master Gardeners, Lane Co. Master Gardeners, Oregon Master Gardener Association, Hardy Plant Society of Oregon, and many individuals.

Please consider joining this effort with your own contribution. We need your partnership to sustain garden research and education! Visit this webpage to see who is supporting garden research and to add your gift <https://gardenecology.oregonstate.edu/gardenecology/support-garden-research>

SherrySheng

..... 2024 looking ahead

Chapter Calendar

**All lectures are approved for one hour continuing education credit*

- **Open Garden August 3 & 4** Home of Harry Landers from 11am to 5pm. *See your directory for address info*
- **September 7 **Saturday**** Chapter Picnic, Milwaukie Center *Family members are also invited!*
- **October 12** – [Fall into Gardening](#) Milwaukie Center, Milwaukie Oregon
- **October 14** – [Lecture Series](#): Success with Planting Garlic, *Chip Bubl*
- **November 12 **Tuesday**** – [Lecture Series](#): Characteristics and Natural History of Conifers in the Pine Family (Pinaceae), *Elizabeth Price*
- **December 9** – [Lecture Series](#): Native plants in the Home Garden, *Eric Butler*

You will find more information about each event by clicking the blue highlighted links above.

Chapter Housekeeping

- **Clackamas County Master Gardener Assoc. is on Facebook!** If you Facebook please give us a like and follow. <https://www.facebook.com/ClackamasCountyMasterGardeners> Send us a FB message if you have any content suggestions 😊

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